

## Claims

1. A method for communicating packets from a packet source in a first network to a packet destination in a second network, where said packet destination has a network address  $X$ , comprising the steps of:  
communicating, from an element in said second network to an element in said first network, an address  $Y$  that corresponds to address  $X$  mapped with function  $\mathcal{Q}$ ;  
and  
mapping, in a node in said second network, at least a sub-field of an address field contained in packets received from said first network with a function  $\mathcal{P}$ , where  $\mathcal{Q}$  and  $\mathcal{P}$  are functions such that  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q}(X))=X$ .
2. The method of claim 1 where functions  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{Q}$  change upon occurrence of an event.
3. The method of claim 2 where said event is reception of a change-specification signal, or a specified change in the time-of-day.
4. The method of claim 2 where said functions  $\mathcal{Q}$  and  $\mathcal{P}$  change at regular time intervals.
5. The method of claim 1 where said changes to said mapping function  $\mathcal{Q}$  and mapping function  $\mathcal{P}$  are algorithmically determined.
6. The method of claim 1 where said changes to said mapping function  $\mathcal{Q}$  and mapping function  $\mathcal{P}$  are determined by reference to a table that is stored in said element of said second network, and a table that is stored in said node.
7. The method of claim 6 where said table in said node contains seed values that are used to develop a decryption function to serve as mapping function  $\mathcal{P}$ , and said table in said element of said second network contains seed values that are used to develop a decryption function to serve as mapping function  $\mathcal{Q}$ .



